

THE PATH TO PEACE



BY THE
VEILED POLITICIAN

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THE PATH TO PEACE

A Short Handbook on
National Training

BY

THE VEILED POLITICIAN

AUTHOR OF

"LETTERS FROM A VEILED POLITICIAN, 1910,"
"THE PARTING OF THE WAYS, 1911"

"DUM SPIRO, SPERO."

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HAROLDING

Dedicated
TO
THE MAN IN THE STREET
IN
FIRM CONFIDENCE.

412831

"As we wax hot in faction,
In battle we wax cold ;
Wherefore men fight not as they fought
In the brave days of old.

* * *

Then none were for a party
But all were for the State."

"If I lose my honour, I lose myself."

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CHAPTER I

A PEACEFUL CENTURY

“The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils himself in many ways.”

—TENNYSON.

THE PATH TO PEACE

CHAPTER I

A PEACEFUL CENTURY

DEAR COMPATRIOT,

You have watched during the winter of 1912-13, in company with the rest of Europe, the recent struggle of Christian against Moslem, with awakening interest and conscious concern.

The war in the Balkan States has done more than change the map in Southern Europe : it has put a match to a neglected and unfed fire in the hearts of those in this northern Isle.

The terrible contest which we have just witnessed has already had several unforeseen results, besides those that are recognised and acknowledged, and there may yet be others that we wot not of.

Here in Great Britain we had been living in a fool's paradise, in which wars were counted as impossible in Europe in

the 20th century. We supposed of course that there might be tribal wars in India or Africa, or strife in remote regions, against inferior races, who would meet modern artillery for the first time, and have good common sense rammed into their woolly heads by the loss of them.

But that Europe could be convulsed either in the north or in the south with a bitter and bloody struggle between two well known races, within its own confines, and that the struggle would involve over a million men, was a fact that we had not reckoned within the range of possibility.

There was a very general concensus of opinion, followed by the sincere wish that it might be so, that the Millennium was at hand, that universal peace was due, and that the horrors of the battlefield might become nightmares of the past, relegated to the limbo of the improbable.

Our earnest desires were based on a slight foundation of fact, for it is true that the 19th century was undoubtedly the most peaceful century the world has yet experienced, for it could show within itself two long periods of comparative peace, one of twenty-nine years' duration, and the other of twenty-two years.

But we forget that these two periods of peace were both won at the point of the bayonet, and from the mouth of the cannon. Great Britain was the victor in 1815, and therefore gained the largest share of the fruits of successful war, namely peace, plenty, and prosperity. Germany was the victor in 1870, and likewise carried off her laurels.

Victorious Arms lead to the paths of peace.

As the 19th century is known to have been, on the whole, the most peaceful century the world has enjoyed, we may choose this particular century for making a few investigations.

Let us turn to the storms and struggles which occurred during the hundred years which approached more nearly than any others to our ideals of peace. We shall then be looking at the brightest aspect of possibility instead of on the dark or gloomy side.

The small wars, in which less than 100,000 men were engaged, will not be mentioned here, but between 1800 A.D. and 1900 A.D., or what may be known as the peaceful century, the following wars of magnitude occurred.

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XIXTH CENTURY.

	Wars		Men
Napoleonic	1805 Russo-Austro-French	..	500,000
	1806 Prusso-French	..	240,000
	1809 Austro-French	..	550,000
	1812 Russo-French..	..	700,000
	1813 Allies-French..	..	1,000,000
	1815 Allies-French, Waterloo	..	345,000

Period of peace 29 years.

1854	Crimean	..	..	340,000
1857	Indian Mutiny	..	..	Uncertain
1859	Franco-Austrian	..	..	310,000
1861-4	American Civil	..	..	3,000,000
1866	Austro-Prussian	..	..	830,000
1870	Franco-German	..	..	1,025,000
1877	Russo-Turkish	500,000

Period of peace 22 years.

1899	Boer-British	160,000	~ 360
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Fourteen wars of first class importance (and several others) within the century.

This took place in the *most* peaceful century the world has known.

If it is preferred to omit the Napoleonic wars and begin with the Battle of Waterloo, down to the present time, namely, from 1815 to 1913, the results remain almost the same.

We then have :

	Wars		Men
1815	Waterloo ..	..	345,000
1854	Crimean ..	..	240,000
1857	Indian Mutiny ..	..	Uncertain

ERRATA.

Page 14, line 18	These lines should read :—
„ 15 „ 11	
„ 16 „ 3	
1899 Boer-British	360,000

Page 16, line 4. This should read :—

1904 Russo-Japanese 1,500,000

This gives a period of fifty-nine years, in which ten wars took place, so that by coming nearer to our own day, we obtain an average of one war every six years.

But if we look at the present century, at a period which is absolutely up-to-date, the results are still more bellicose.

THE PATH TO PEACE

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1877	Russo-Turkish	500,000
1899	Boer-British	160,000
1904	Russo-Japanese	1,500,000
1912	Turkish Wars	1,000,000

360-060

This gives eleven wars within ninety-nine years, or an average of one important war every nine years.

If it is considered that the first half of the last century is too remote to bear directly upon the question, we may count from the Crimean War in 1854 down to 1913.

This gives a period of fifty-nine years, in which ten wars took place, so that by coming nearer to our own day, we obtain an average of one war every six years.

But if we look at the present century, at a period which is absolutely up-to-date, the results are still more bellicose.

XXTH CENTURY.

	Wars		Men	
1900	Boer-British ..	..	..	160,000 360,000
1901	Russo-Japanese ..	..	..	500,000
1912	Turko-Italian ..	..	..	250,000
1913	Turkish-Allies ..	..	..	1,000,000
1913	Balkan Wars ..	..	..	1,500,000

This gives five wars in the short space of thirteen years, or an average of one war every three years (or less) of the present new century !

These statistics based upon solid concrete facts do not support the pleasant theory that we are on the eve of universal peace, or that wars are doomed to disappear.

On the contrary it would appear that the nearer we approach to what we hoped might prove the Millennium, the oftener do contests actually take place.

This unexpected fact astonishes us at first sight, but may be easily explained.

The numerous inventions of the last twenty-five years have caused a great shrinkage in the size of the world as far as effects are concerned.

Distance is measured, in peace by the time taken to make communications, and in war by the possibility of moving trans-

ports. Therefore we perceive that time has been altered, and space annihilated to a very considerable degree by modern developments.

These bring all peoples into closer contact, thereby causing the friction of contending parties to be felt more insistently and more continuously, whilst diverse interests inevitably converge upon the same point.

Races who were not in the pale of civilisation in bygone times, find themselves face to face with those who have been there for centuries.

The inventions of the superior brains appertaining to the first class Powers can be used and assimilated by those belonging to a lower grade, who would have been totally unable to make the discoveries for themselves, but who can now derive the same amount of benefit from them as the producers themselves.

Knowledge has become universal, and all can profit by the general spread of information.

Thus what was once far away is now near, everyone has less breathing space, ambitions run in similar directions, and competitors are aiming for the same prizes that the world has to offer.

This state of affairs is bound to give more opportunities for struggles, so that the lesson we learn from the New Century is in reality the right one to take to heart, and many things point to there being further developments along the same lines of converging interests.

Therefore, instead of crying for the moon and sighing for universal peace, let us look at things as they really are, and prepare ourselves for the probable contingencies of strife, gathering wisdom from several points which become emphasised.

These are that :—

1. Wars tend to become quicker in execution and shorter in duration.
2. Wars tend to become longer in preparation, employ a larger number of men, disturb a vaster amount of territory, and are far greater in their ultimate results.

Let us learn all we may from these self-evident points.

Another salient characteristic which causes us surprise is the very disconcerting fact that all these wars have been fought, and lost or won, *on land*, and that naval warfare has only assisted and abetted in the ultimate results of struggles which were invariably completed by military arms.

In other words the naval battles of the last century (which was certainly a time of inordinate naval expansion) were never decisive by themselves, but were always preliminary to, and supplementary to, the real issues at stake, which were indubitably determined, for weal or woe, on terra firma.

Glorious as were the naval victories of Nelson, it was not "the Battle of the Nile," nor yet the "Battle of Trafalgar," fought on the billowy wave with a genius and generosity which gave his life to his country, which released Europe from the crushing domination of Napoleon. But it was the "Battle of Waterloo," fought on dry land, which decisively crumbled Bonaparte's power to the dust, and put the finishing touch to the previous superb naval victories.

A century later, and within the memory of each one of us, the same rule held good. It was not the defeat of the Russian Fleet at Sushima Straits which gave complete victory to the Japanese, but after their naval successes, which undoubtedly proved of vital assistance, this was gained by the land forces at the siege of Port Arthur.

These instances can be multiplied indefinitely from the pages of the past,

but those who do not hold with this dictum can try to give opposite examples.

The country which wishes to retain its power or possessions must remain undefeated upon the ocean, but it must also be able to push home its naval victories by continuing them to a successful issue on land.

The last decisive throw of the dice in any contest between human races has ever been, and always will be, on the solid earth.

This is a natural law and will therefore endure for ever.

Man was created as an inhabitant of the earth, not as a denizen of the air or an occupant of the ocean, neither amphibious nor winged, and his destinies will therefore be decided within his natural sphere, and amongst the surroundings which Providence has ordained as his own.

Races and peoples and individuals who follow natural laws are assured of success, and those who ignore or violate Nature's decrees pay the penalty by death and desolation.

Nature wastes no time on arguments, but disobedience simply brings disappearance, partial or *entire* destruction.

Let it not be imagined for one moment that it is meant to decry the immense importance of the British Navy. This magnificent possession has existed in some shape or form for the same thousand years that we ourselves have had any national life, and acts as the very breath of our body politic. Without its support and strength we could never be nourished, seeing that we import five hundred pounds worth of food for every minute of the year, and draw our supplies from every quarter of the globe, and have interests and claims throughout both hemispheres. Its moral effect and wonderful prestige are the factors upon which the British Empire rests, and without our Fleet and all that it means, we should vanish from the minds of men in less time than it takes to build a battleship.

But the science of warfare has two arms, even as the human body, the naval arm and the military arm, and it is fatal to trust to one when both will be needed for future events.

A man would indeed be considerably handicapped if he elected to perform all his work with his left arm, useful and indispensable as this limb may be to him, and we as a nation have already placed

too great a strain upon the left arm of scientific strategy.

In future we must also use the right arm, and have it in a state of readiness for emergencies.

The horrors of war are so revolting that in cowardice we put them away from us, hoping in vain for perpetual peace, but by doing this we are in direct opposition to Nature, for her law of strife is immutable and unchangeable. (Peace can only be secured by being prepared with both arms of warlike strategy to accept our share in future contingencies, and by keeping ourselves ready to avert any possible dangers.)

We have been assured over and over again by those who, like ostriches, prefer to bury their heads in the sands—in the vain hope that if they do not see things they may remain invisible to others—that we “may sleep in our beds at ease.”

They cannot have studied the pages of past history, they cannot have judged from the events that are passing under their very eyes, and they cannot possess any intuitive insight into the future.

But sound common sense can do all of these three things, and can come independently to the conclusion, that unless decisive measures are forthwith adopted

by our mankind, and proper foresight displayed for the needs of the future, we shall not want even our beds : a grave will better meet our requirements. A national grave for honour, for prestige, for glory, and for existence. A grave which will mark the beginning of wars innumerable for the rest of the world, and the departure of justice, law or order for centuries.

Only adequate preparations in periods of ease, for the victories which will be needed in times of strife, are the steps which can eventually lead to the paths of peace.

In terra pax hominibus.

CHAPTER II

A NATURAL LAW

"All States are in perpetual war with all. For that which we call peace is no more than merely a name, whilst in reality Nature has set all communities in an unproclaimed but everlasting war with each other."

—PLATO.



CHAPTER II

A NATURAL LAW

All life is founded upon and surrounded by strife.

All existence betokens effort and endeavour, or is not fulfilling its destiny.

A human life only enters the world after a fearful struggle.

An individual's life only becomes of account after it has proved itself more capable than the lives of other individuals.

The life of a tribe only becomes noticeable after it has conquered another tribe.

The life of a country only gains a national phase after it has proved its strength against a less fortunate country.

The life of an Empire only partakes of an Imperial character after it has placed its seal upon the neglected and confiscated possessions of other kingdoms or Empires.

Throughout the whole world, whether in the animal, vegetable or mineral king-

doms, whether on the earth, in the air, or within the ocean, all life is dependent and continuous upon other life.

There is no such thing as solitary, independent existence; it would simply mean death and decay.

Humanity preys upon everything within its range all the days of its life, and is in turn preyed upon by legions and myriads of every sort and kind.

Not only are we surrounded in daily life by enormous varieties of germs and bacilli of disease which attack, infest, and derange us at times of illness, but we are also inhabited by other forms, such as parasites, messmates and mutualists, which are, unceasingly, our constant companions and associates in complete health, and even contribute to our well-being.

Good health regulates these matters automatically, but bad health succumbs to them and allows these legions a mischievous preponderance, which then has to be frustrated by medical science.

A new-born infant an hour old starts the race for life (after a struggle to enter the world) with innumerable forms of invisible life within it.

This rule of life within life, and existence continuous with, and dependent upon,

other existence, encouraging constant struggling, is a primary law of Nature's, which must be accepted without denial or contradiction, and we should do our best to perceive the undoubted beauty underlying this indisputable fact.

Your own body is not in your sole possession, but you share it with thousands of other existences.

The most peaceful spot in the world, when investigated by an observant eye or an attentive ear, will show every condition of restlessness.

"And the whole little wood where I stood
Was a world of plunder and prey."

It would seem that the peace of a wood is the outcome of the tumultuous life within it, and if we turn from a forest to water the same rule is observed, the rule of contest, turmoil, activity, endeavour, and fight for supremacy.

It might be imagined that the bosom of the broad ocean was sufficiently capacious to allow of plenty of space to the multitudes of creatures that abound upon it, but when we study the intricate problems of their existence, we discover that there cannot be found one creature who does not prey upon something else either smaller or larger, or one object which is not surrounded by atoms

even less, until the most minute take up their abode within, or affixed to, other larger bodies.

The fecundity of the finny tribes is staggering in its immensity, and their promulgation of possible progeny runs to such enormous numbers that it appears as if the ocean might be filled with their species, until we realise that the amount of warfare they have to undergo, and the immeasurable calamities which overtake them, obliterate vast quantities of their productivity.

A salmon spawns millions of eggs with the probability of rearing two per cent. It is obvious that if all these eggs became fish there would be a plague of them, but as a matter of fact so few reach maturity that salmon is still a delicacy.

If we can grasp the fact of the tremendous amount of opposition and calamity and antagonistic circumstances with which all fish have to contend, we may realise the universal presence of the law of strife, contest, turmoil, which is for ever in operation, on earth and on water, throughout all and every branch of existence.

Men are not immune from these same circumstances of contest any more than fish ; they are preyed upon by legions

in their own bodies. Is it for one moment conceivable that they will not be preyed upon also in their own domain and their own country? Unless they are strong enough to resist attacks, they may fall victims when they least expect onslaughts, but that these will present themselves in due course, as the outcome of natural law, is absolutely inevitable.

Whither, and to what end, does this law of struggling, of incessant contest, and continuous turmoil lead?

It conducts towards progression, development, expansion, elevation of every sort and degree.

“Progress is not an accident, it is a necessity. It is part of nature.”*

Therefore, we *must* change and progress, or Nature has no use for us; it is a question of the elimination of the inferior, and of the survival of the fittest.

From the darkness of ignorance to the light of knowledge.

From the durance vile of slavery to the freedom of speech and action.

From the dead weight of oppression and corruption to the beneficent rule of justice, law and order.

* Herbert Spencer.

From the worship of material forms in their own image to the ideals of spiritual forms and the love of beauty, truth, perfection.

From the things that have been to those that will be.

" All ages move upward and races progress,
Finding salvation through strife, storm and stress ;
To Gothic Cathedrals from pagan stones,
To science creative from mummied bones ;
Thus is the march of the Ages that roll
Forward and onward—whilst taking their toll."

It is only by being passed through the fiery furnace of fierce endeavour that the rough material may be adjusted, improved, and refined, until it becomes the finished article of power, progress, and wisdom.

It is only by an intense struggle towards betterment that the shackles of darkness may be cast off and a vision of the realms of light be brought within reach.

It is only efforts, disappointments and failures, properly turned to account, that teach us the lessons we must learn, and that bring us within the region of conquests, successes and victories.

It is the law of endeavour which leads us ever onward and forward to the beneficial results already attained, and which will ever conduct towards even higher

ideals, which are yet to be brought within the range of possibility.

It follows from the above considerations that man, animals, birds, insects, and plants can only exist by modifying themselves in accordance with daily circumstances and present needs.

When they lose the power to change, *i.e.*, develop upon right lines, they begin to die.

Therefore, let us accept ungrudgingly Nature's law of progress, and let us change with present requirements.

"Men my brothers, men the workers, ever reaping
something new,
That which they have done, but earnest of the
things that they shall do."

CHAPTER III

BATTLES OF THE PAST

"A change came o'er the spirit of my dream."

CHAPTER III

BATTLES OF THE PAST

It would be outside the scope of this small book to follow on every side the world-wide results of the workings of Nature's all-pervading law of strife, development and progress.

We must therefore leave out of our calculations those struggles which have taken place in Asia, Africa (except Egypt), America and Australasia, and consider merely the changes which have occurred in our own continent of Europe, and which have made history here for the last three thousand years.

Even with this great restriction we shall be able to observe that contests have been continuous, battlefields numerous and that the final outcome of the struggles has been the elimination of the inferior and the survival of the fittest and the strongest.

We may also notice that throughout the warfare of the past centuries there have always been, roughly speaking, two kinds of armies engaged in the battles.

1. The first armies consist of the citizens of a nation, who united voluntarily under arms, to defend their interests or their country for some good reason, either because their hearts were full of courage, or because their stomachs were empty, and they needed food or sustenance.

These armies may be called citizen or national armies, and partake most truly of the character of the nation which they represent, as the men who form them are the citizens, the soldiers, the statesmen, and the leaders of that nation.

2. The second armies are composed of men who are compelled to fight through fear, instead of courage, fear either of the enemy at home, or the enemy abroad, through adverse circumstances, or because they have no other means of earning a living. They may come from a distance or they may be drawn from the lowest dregs of a floating population. They do not represent any national characteristics and have often been migratory, or foreigners who have been paid to fight, for whatever cause their employers desire.

These may be called mercenary, enforced or non-national armies.

Given these two different kinds of armies, pitched against each other on a battlefield, anyone may guess which will win the victory over the other.

Courage defeats fear, right conquers wrong.

Citizen armies must be superior to those that are not, because their interests are identical. Training and discipline having been carried out together create a bond of sympathy ; they do not fight for a foolish reason, or an unjust cause, as their main desires are for peace to continue their various callings. Only when their hearts are full of courage for a righteous cause, or of love for their homes and their country, will they rise as one man to defend their interests and inheritance.

Non-national or mercenary armies composed of foreigners, vagabonds and riff-raff, have no common interests, have nothing of importance at stake, and do not possess the physical calibre or the moral fibre to enable them to become warriors.

They are therefore morally beaten even before they begin, and the history of the past emphatically corroborates this point and verifies the truth of it.

Three thousand years ago the civilisations of Mesopotamia and Egypt were the oldest that Europe knew. Egypt is geographically in Africa, and Mesopotamia in Asia, but historically they have belonged to the struggles of Europe, and therefore will make a good starting point now, and from them we will quickly glance at the struggles of the intervening centuries, to more recent times.

At the period of Egyptian greatness and prosperity she had a Citizen or National Army, and as long as she possessed this valuable asset, she enjoyed wealth and power. Her defence was undertaken by 400,000 warriors, who were of a special fighting caste, and these soldiers were given farms to live upon, because a man fights better and with a fuller heart when he is fighting to preserve his homestead. But in the 7th century, B.C., King Psammeticus ill-treated and despised his guardians, and 240,000 of these, or the greater part of the Egyptian Army, migrated to Ethiopia and left their ungrateful sovereign, and instead of using this splendid fighting material, the King formed an army of Greek mercenaries (men who are paid to fight and do not care for what objects their services are required).

Thereupon their neighbours, the Persians, seeing that Egypt was weak in fighting material, and knowing the inadequacy of her army, attacked her mercenaries with their citizen or national army, and in 525 B.C., the Persians after a decisive engagement captured Egypt. Her greatness was destroyed and the country fell into the hands of foreigners, by whom it has been ruled ever since.

This was for want of Egypt's valiant army of citizen warriors.

Thus the first great Empire known to Europe, the Egyptian Empire, declined and passed away.

Victory lay with the citizen army of the Persians.

Victorious arms lead to the paths of peace and prosperity ; but woe betide those who slumber in these pleasant places too long.

After their great conquest of Egypt and Asia Minor, the Persians naturally became extremely prosperous, but eventually had their strength undermined by luxury. They then abandoned military discipline, avoided the arts of warfare, and their citizen army was thereupon gradually replaced by soldiers drawn from subject and inferior races, who were to fight in

place of the rich Persians ; so much was this the case that when the great struggle with the western Confederacies took place, there were fifty-six races in the Persian army. This Confederacy, amongst whom were the Greeks, seeing where the Persian weakness lay, and knowing how effete and feeble was their army, attacked the Persian hosts with their citizen or national armies and routed them.

Thus a league of poor and hardy peoples destroyed a vast horde of enemies who were richer than themselves.

Victory lay with the citizen armies of the Greek peoples.

Victorious arms lead to the paths of peace and prosperity. But woe betide those who linger there too long.

Greece then enjoyed a period of expansion, of art, of literature, and civilisation unrivalled in the annals of the world's history.

At the time of their conquests, the Greeks were poor and hardy, and all men from the age of twenty years and upwards were trained to bear arms. Military service was then regarded as a privilege, but with increased prosperity they became otherwise occupied, they considered themselves unassailable, they neglected their

military training, their places were filled by riff-raff and vagabonds, instead of with their own flesh and blood. They thought their money would buy them peace, and that their wealth would drive off the enemy. Not so : lucre is a great attraction to a poor country, and acts as a bait to the hardy, sturdy, tribes near by.

Philip II. of Macedon, seeing the internal weakness of the neighbouring cognate people, and knowing the character of their effete and feeble army, attacked them and routed them at the beginning of the first half of the 4th century B.C. Again the victory lay with the national army of Macedonia, and “the glory and the greatness that was Greece” passed away.

A like fate awaited the greatest maritime power of antiquity, Phœnicia. She was rich and prosperous with much colonial power, but because she had no military army to support her ships and guard her interests, she fell, and her own daughter Carthage stepped into her shoes and was the representative of the whole Phœnician people. Carthage then ruled the sea of the Mediterranean and became very wealthy, but she was not wise enough to profit by the sad experience of her Mother, Phœnicia, and did not perceive that it is impossible to

maintain supremacy by ships and shipping interests alone, unsupported by military strength. So when Rome, who was in the beginning poor and hardy and trusted to itself and its sword, whilst Carthage trusted to its gold and its hired soldiers, gave battle to her, she fell, and Carthage was destroyed by the Romans or her neighbours across the water.

Again the victory lay with the national or citizen army of Rome, in those days poor and hardy.

Victorious arms lead to the paths of peace and prosperity.

We all know the wonderful history of Rome.

She was triumphant as long as her people remained simple and courageous at heart, strong and manly in physique, with natural desires for family life and welfare. As long as Romans had the wish to live laborious days and do their duty, all went well ; but when luxury ate into her vitals like a maggot, when internal corruption overtook her people and they gave themselves over to vicious practices, when they surrendered the life that produced warriors and courted idle lives of ease, then the end of their glory was at hand. Then Rome with all her splendour, her art, her civilisa-

tion, and her wisdom, fell to the national armies of the Barbarians.

This is perhaps the clearest and most conclusive instance on record of the value of a national army versus a mercenary one. Because the men who fought for Rome as mercenaries were actually drawn from the same northern races who defeated her. Only, the conquerors were fighting for their own existence, with their actual interests at stake, and the vanquished (naturally the inferior ones) were fighting for mere pay without any vital interests at stake, being mercenaries or hired troops, who were bought to fight for the Romans, who would not fight for themselves.

They had their inevitable reward by being overthrown by the national armies of the poor, the needy and the hardy, and this dreadful calamity threw back the civilisation of the world for hundreds of years.

Want of space makes it here impossible to enumerate the important facts of the immediately succeeding centuries, all of which emphasise the same rule and enforce the same argument, that the strong and healthy dominate, and that powerful armies must be citizen or national ones. But although space fails we may glance at two

well-known empires—the Spanish and the Dutch—because they bore many points of resemblance to our British Empire of to-day.

The 16th century saw the gradual rise of Spain ; she extended her power by degrees until she possessed a huge colonial Empire, scattered in many directions, and the very prosperous dependent States of the Netherlands. Owing to religious persecution and intolerable oppression, these industrious and steadfast Dutch peoples revolted against the tyranny to which they were subjected ; war followed and the painful yoke was overthrown. The glory and military power of Spain was destroyed.

Victory lay with the citizen armies of the Dutch.

Victorious arms lead to the paths of peace, and prosperity ; but woe betide any country which lingers too long in these pleasant places.

The effects upon a nation of slumbering unduly in the paths of prosperity are exactly the same as those following a man when he oversleeps himself several hours in the morning of a busy workday. Everything is delayed, he falls behindhand, arrives late, is hustled, flurried and rushed, and ends by doing his work badly instead

of well. Whereas an extra hour in the morning enables him to plan out the time and accomplish all he had hoped to do and sometimes even more. In fact he steals a march upon Time, and that is what nations must do, and always have done, in history.

By the overthrow of Spain the Dutch inherited all the wealth, the power and the colonies of her former conquerors, and their mantle of greatness descended upon the hardy, sturdy, God-seeking Netherlands.

The Dutch World-Empire of the 17th century was more like our own than any of its predecessors, and for a long period everything flourished exceedingly. They were commercial and industrious, they ruled the seas, their ships were ubiquitous ; their possessions were scattered all over the world, and for them conditions similar to our own existed.

But as their wealth increased their religion waned, their pride waxed strong and their vigour waxed low. They fondly imagined that their wealth would provide them with armies, and that their sea power would prevent enemies attacking their land. Whenever this neglect of an army has been tried it has always brought fiasco.

They surrendered their voluntary warriors and trusted to their gold to save them, but on the contrary this only led them to destruction, because it proved a lure to their poorer neighbours, who perceived they were an inviting spectacle.

They were attacked by their neighbours the French and the English ; the final tussle for supremacy under Louis XIV. resulted in the downfall of the Dutch, the spoils were divided between the victors, and the English stepped into their shoes as a naval and commercial power. This brought Britain certain of the Dutch possessions in far away lands, which inheritance was one of the bases of our own British Empire founded upon another's decay. The greatest asset we obtained was the annexation of a vast commercial and carrying trade almost world-wide in character, and a sound banking system, which raised British credit on the collapse of Dutch credit. The Bank of England was once the Bank of Amsterdam, and sprang from its predecessor.

Thus the final and determining struggle for life or death between two powers has invariably been decided on land in warfare.

Many minor causes and the violation of natural laws have led up to, and pre-

disposed nations to undermining influences, before the ultimate fiascos have overtaken them, brought about by a stronger nation from without.

Unhealthy, unnatural practices which work against, and are in contradiction to, the real simplicity of life, where men and women are concerned, have generally been the beginning of internal corruption.

This starts with individuals and their diseased ideals, induces harmful actions, and the poison spreads through the national vitals until it saps racial vigour.

When government becomes corrupt and dishonest, and when this condition of affairs is tolerated and condoned by public opinion, then ill-health is in the political body and the first stage of trouble has set in. Unless matters can be righted from influences springing from uncorrupted healthy quarters, the two succeeding stages are only a matter of time. Sometimes of years, frequently of decades, rarely of centuries—for the seeds of weakness will flourish apace, and the end of strength is within sight.

There are always three distinct stages in the decline and disintegration and decay of an empire :—

1. Internal corruption. The heart of the nation becomes rotten at core. (Decline).
2. The falling away and breaking off of various portions of the whole, through factions and dissatisfaction and disaffection. (Disintegration).
3. The final descent of a stronger power from outside, generally a near neighbour, who wrests away possessions and inherits them. (Decay).

These stages and conditions remain true for all time.

We have been vouchsafed the splendid opportunity of witnessing these three processes taking place under our very eyes, in the bloody struggle of arms which has just taken place in the Balkans.

The results being that the once powerful Ottoman Empire has lost all its possessions in Europe and has been driven back to Asia Minor, from whence it emerged five centuries ago.

There are two aspects to this case :—

1. The rise of the Balkan States.
2. The downfall of the Ottoman Empire.

This latter phase is the one which is the most instructive for us, as we may trace it step by step through its grievous mistakes and general decline to its final doom.

The strong arise and the weak retire, and the law of nations is and will always remain the same, which is that Might is Right.

The accompanying maps show the territory the Ottoman Empire owned in the 15th century in Europe, besides Turkey in Asia Minor (map 1). Map 2 shows the loss of her power in Europe and the wresting away from her suzerainty of vast territories in Southern Europe. The true reason for these great losses was internal corruption, party factions and misgovernment of the races under her rule. When oppression became too painful, large portions of her possessions broke away into independence rather than remain vassals harassed by injustice and tyranny. Then a near neighbour, Italy, fought Turkey for territory that she desired to annex, and finally the Bulgars and the Serbs have conquered their oppressors and driven them out of Europe.

This recent struggle emphasises the fact that exactly the same rules apply to warfare to-day as were in force three thousand years ago, and there is every



TURKEY AT END OF 15TH CENTURY.



TURKEY IN 1913.

probability of these holding good for all time.

The victory lies with the national or citizen armies of the Allies, and the Turks have been routed until their once famous Ottoman Empire can no longer be considered worthy of that name.

The strong conquer and the corrupt are defeated.

That is the lesson that all the battles of the past have repeated, and history has been made, and is still being made, upon the same rule that a national army is the strongest weapon of defence with which a country can provide itself.

Many minor causes may assist in the downfall of a previously great Empire, but the determining cause and the final struggle for life or existence has always been won by strong hardy peoples with national armies, against rich corrupt ones with mercenary or insufficient armies.

In which category do we find ourselves ?

CHAPTER IV

ARMIES OF THE PRESENT

" When can their glory fade ?
O ! the wild charge they made :
All the world wonder'd."

—CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE.

CHAPTER IV

ARMIES OF THE PRESENT

In a previous chapter we have seen that the 20th century has opened with the clash of arms and the sound of drums, which betoken a revival of the martial spirit innate in man, either in an active or dormant state. These fresh struggles initiate a new set of combats for racial supremacy, which will decide which races are to be more or less wiped out, and which races are to become supreme.

We have also noticed that war, as at present constituted, requires much longer time for preparation and much more skill in organisation and administration. Therefore, if there is to be the slightest hope of success in struggles, those participating in them, or expecting to be forced to take a share in them, will, if sensible, place themselves in a state of readiness to fulfil

obligations to themselves, their country, and their race.

That this has been admitted as true, is corroborated by the methods adopted during the last decade.

It may surprise the peace palavering ostriches (no such thing as peace can be found in the whole world—not even in the grave) to learn that since the year 1900 the rejuvenation of the martial spirit has induced the following countries to place themselves in relation with future possibilities, by adopting obligatory universal training:—

1.	1900	Mexico.
2.	1901	Sweden.
3.	1902	Ecuador.
4.	1905	Argentine.
5.	1908	Argentine.
6.	1908	Brazil.
7.	1908	Chili.
8.	1909	Belgium.
9.	1909	Greece.
10.	1911	Australia.
11.	1911	New Zealand.
12.	1911	Spain.

A round dozen of distinct countries, scattered all over the world, who are not anticipating the Millennium of Peace in

s spite of the unconvincing arguments of the peace-palavering ostriches !

The continental powers of Europe, for the most part, re-arranged and modernised their large armies in the latter half of the last century, and now have huge standing armies on a national basis, with periods of service varying from two, three to four years, which enables them to put a million or more of men in the field at very short notice.

In this category are :—

France.

Germany.

Russia.

Italy.

Austria Hungary.

Servia.

Bulgaria.

Japan.

The only three countries of importance in the world which are still clinging to the purely voluntary principle of military service, which naturally leads to excessively small and therefore insufficient armies, are Great Britain, America, and China.

China has been in the throes of turmoil for several years.

America will have to face the music soon : strains of it are now heard in California.

Great Britain has, as we shall notice, at least two vital struggles in front of her.

She could rise to both valiantly and well if she determined to make adequate preparations.

In Oliver Cromwell's Ironsides England had once upon a time a citizen army that was unsurpassable, and the finest force known of its kind.

What England has done, she can still do. Therefore Great Britain can once more have the finest body in citizen armies if my friend "the man in the street" sees the necessity of putting his shoulder to the wheel.

Great Britain has at the present time a voluntary army of splendid fighting material, which would be sufficient for all her needs if it could be kept at home, but it has such enormous responsibilities thrust upon it through the care and guardianship of our vast British Empire, that it is not sufficiently numerous for the great amount of work demanded of it.

It is thus distributed :—

LOCALITY.	SOLDIERS.
Gibraltar	3,957
Malta	7,511
Cyprus	123

LOCALITY.	SOLDIERS.
Egypt	6,113
S. Africa	11,592
Mauritius	1,435
Sierra Leone	2,562
Bermudas	1,357
Jamaica	1,068
Ceylon	1,300
Singapore	2,526
Hong Kong	4,298
China	2,064
India	76,000
Various places	3,760
United Kingdom	136,787

What great undertakings for a splendid but very small voluntary army !

And what margin does it leave for sending a strong force at short notice to the weakest link in the chain of Empire, which is exactly the place where numbers would count immensely in an emergency.

As the expense of sending our soldiers to these various destinations is very great, it has been found advisable, nay essential, to have a system of long service which allows soldiers to remain for a period of years at these different outposts.

This system is based on experience and is found to work well. Men join the

colours for seven years, and at the end of that time enter the reserve for five years. There need be no thought, therefore, of changing our system in this respect for our voluntary Army, our Navy, or our Marine.

Those who are still ready for long service abroad can give their labours to their country and join the Reserve afterwards.

This Reserve is a great asset in our present army, and is about 100,000 strong. It would form a very useful nucleus for emergency forces if it could be enlarged and assisted by supplementary shorter-time soldiers, trained to bear arms in an efficient manner. It behoves us to consider how this may best be carried out, seeing that nearly every other country is ready for the frays that may occur in our present century.

George Washington said : “ If we desire to secure peace, it must be known that we are at all times ready for war. ”

That we in Great Britain are not adequately ready for war is proved by the facts of the last war in which we were engaged.

If we had had a truly sufficient citizen army in 1899 the Boer war would never have taken place : peace would have been maintained instead. As we were not ready, this war dragged on for three years, cost us

30,000 lives and £300,000,000 in cash, and was indeed a sorry spectacle for the pride of England to contemplate.

The time when our army was regarded as a happy playground for the idle members of our upper classes has long since gone by, and officers are now expected to lead a strenuous life and work hard—even too hard sometimes—and for some mysterious reason they are to do this upon a diet of air!

It is as essential to maintain the Commissariat Department in good working order as it is important to enable the soldiers to profit by training and discipline.

Battles are often won on the stomach.

This fundamental fact is recognised where Tommy Atkins is concerned.

Recently very advantageous improvements have been made in the methods of supplying his needs. For instance the provision of convenient water carts which carry this precious fluid for distribution on the march, also the ingenious travelling ovens in which cooking operations can be continued during the progress of a brigade, so that Tommy Atkins can obtain a nice hot dinner on his arrival at camp, after his fatiguing labours.

All this is as it should be.

Officers are responsible for the feeding of their men, and omission of this important branch incurs trouble.

Not so the War Office. For the War Office is not responsible for the provisions of its officers, and does not feed them ! It washes its hands of the whole affair of catering for this vital branch of its service.

The result is that officers are in the habit of making their own arrangements in the form of a military Mess, which is supplied by some firm of caterers such as Messrs. Lyons, Messrs. Spiers and Pond, etc., etc. This plan must be changed at home, in the day of tranquillity, because the ugly green tents of the confectioners were a very incongruous sight among the trim white tents of the army, during the military manœuvres of September, 1912. Officers do useful work in time of peace as in storm and stress, and should therefore be accorded rations at both seasons.

As one who is of a practical turn of mind, and athirst for information on this matter of primary importance, I would humbly inquire of the War Office if it cannot change its methods, and make them more convenient for those in command. Red tape is out of place here and common-sense the best guide.

The methods of war must be decided in peace, and the food of officers is as important as the means to be taken to provide us with a large and sufficient army.

"Providence," Napoleon used to say, "usually fights on the side of the big battalions." Let us use our wisdom in joining hands with Providence.

CHAPTER V

STRUGGLES OF THE FUTURE

" And men, thro' novel spheres of thought
Still moving after truth, long sought,
Will learn new things."

—TENNYSON.



CHAPTER V

STRUGGLES OF THE FUTURE

Attention has been drawn to the undoubted truth that as regards time, space, distance, the tendencies of the present day are to shorten and diminish these, so that, although the world retains its original size physically and geographically, for all practical purposes and spiritual efforts it is ever becoming smaller and undergoing condensation and contraction.

This flux and flexibility is in constant operation and is on natural progressive lines. New conditions are thereby set up which introduce novel and modern necessities.

On the other hand, there is concurrently a contrary movement at work, which tends to bring forces together, to increase the size of undertakings and to bind minute concerns unto larger ones, in ever increasing volume and magnitude.

The first movement towards concentration, diminution and contraction affects intangible things such as time, space, distance, possibilities.

The second movement towards increase of volume, growth, expansion affects concrete things such as banks, railways, business concerns, enterprises, armies, nations and races.

Things which can grow and develop come under the second influence, and battles, struggles and warlike operations are no exception to the rule. They tend to become ever greater in degree, influence and results.

Feuds first began in the earliest days with the individual, the unit.

One head of a family made a raid upon a neighbouring head of a family, with the object of carrying off his property and his women.

Subsequently several families joined together and formed a tribe, in order to gain increased strength and security. Thereupon quarrels, when they broke out, occurred between the patriarchs of one tribe and the chiefs of a rival tribe, resulting in the seizure of plunder and women by the strong from the weak.

A little later the tribes or clans constituted a sect or "people" which consists of units bound together into a mass by blood, customs and language.

Struggles kept pace with those engaged in them and became of more importance. Instead of being desultory raids and tribal descents, they developed into co-operative action and systematised efforts, with the result that fierce battles, instead of skirmishes, became the order of the day.

Eventually, neighbouring peoples, having conquered their enemies, entered the paths of peace, flourished exceedingly and multiplied so enormously that they grew into nations with a country and territory of their own.

Then wars, marching "pari passu" side by side with the requirements of those engaged in them, entered the stages of national conflicts, with national or citizen armies as their exponents. Instead of the spoils of warfare being plunder and women they became territory, possessions and indemnities.

The famous 19th century was the time of the zenith of the nations and therefore the period when national wars between different countries were at their height. (One every decade).

To-day the new century has brought fresh developments with it and we see that nations have grown into Empires. Therefore it is only logical to suppose that our 20th century will bring wars in which Empires are engaged, and that struggles will partake of an Imperial character.

We may here notice that the spirit of warfare has followed in the same train of development as the spirit of religion.

From the concrete to the ethereal, from actual tangibilities of plunder and women, through gradual stages of territory and indemnities to the final present-day objectives of power, prestige, influence and supremacy.

All of which simply bears out the fact that war is only a continuation of national growth or political action, in a different form, and must therefore remain a natural undertaking as long as nations are existent or Empires are in the making.

From the feuds of one unit of a family to the final struggle for supremacy of an Empire with 400,000,000 subjects !!

What growth, what development, what expansion !!!

Truly Nature's law of progress (through strife and struggles) is of adamant, ruthless, relentless, remorseless, but the superb

results achieved show wisdom beyond compare.

From the foregoing we may travel slowly, safely, surely, to the obvious conclusion that the most important conflicts of the future will be Imperial in character, that they will strengthen or shatter Empires, and that 20th century warriors will not fight for loot or women, but for power, prestige, supremacy and ideals.

Therefore if the British Empire has future struggles, they will probably be against other Empires.

Which other Empires ?

Those other Empires which are neighbours and which wish to have our possessions of prestige, power, supremacy.

Where will these struggles occur ?

In the natural places.

For the supremacy of seas, on the ocean.

For influence, prestige, power, on the dry land.

Which land ?

On the land which is contiguous to and surrounding the oceans, which it is desired to dominate.

Why do Empires wish for the sea and the land ?

They desire them both to give them expansion for racial supremacy, so that their own race may become dominant and our British race may become subservient.

We have seen that former fights in past history were always between neighbours who meant to have the same things.

Have we any neighbours who wish for what is ours ?

Is there an ocean which two Empires hope to dominate ?

The rule of the North Sea is desired by two Empires.

The rule of the Pacific is coveted by two Powers.

Then there will be strife.

It must therefore follow, as day follows night, that the 20th century will witness at least two struggles (and others which do not concern us). The British are bound to take action in both of these conflicts because we rightly regard the supremacy of these two oceans as our prerogative.

But we have been challenged in our contentions. The challenge has already begun and the glove thrown down.

We have noticed that naval warfare alone has never proved decisive in the past, so that, after the fight upon the water, the final struggle for the life or death of an

Empire will occur on dry land, contiguous to those oceans which will be the scenes of action.

No one can predict at which exact spot the struggle will begin, but we do know that it is likely to start in the most vulnerable place.

The strength of a chain is at its weakest link.

The strength of a nation is at its frailest spot.

The strength of an Empire is at its feeblest point.

Moreover skirmishes and struggles have a way of beginning on boundaries. Where are the boundaries of the British Isles?

Not on her own shores but on the seaboard of the other shores of the North Sea.

Belgium, Holland, Denmark are the boundaries where any struggle for the rule of the North Sea will take place, because they are contiguous to the ocean which is under dispute and are buffer states between two strong Empires which desire the same thing.

Boundaries are for ever changing, subject to the law of flux. There is no such thing as a *status quo*, which the peace-palavering ostriches are so fond of discussing.

Weakness contracts boundaries, but strength causes them to expand automatically and continuously.

Lack of population, which lets in foreign population along boundaries, causes them to contract. (The French Mediterranean coast is quietly monopolised by foreigners. There are 100,000 Italians in Marseilles alone.) Growth of population which spreads across a boundary for want of space enlarges that boundary. Possession is nine-tenths of the law.

A nation can expand as much by emigration as by actual conquest of territory : they are both means to the same end.

The British have two boundaries to guard.

1. The boundaries of the British Isles which are on the other side of the North Sea.
2. The boundaries of the British Empire which are all over the world.

Are we strong enough to mount guard over these vast boundaries at any given moment ?

Our military strength is insufficient for the purpose of sending forces at short notice to the weakest link in the chain of Empire. Yet this is the only way to salvation.

Also, our Fleet, being more or less detained near the North Sea to watch over a rival who challenges our supremacy there, is not at present at liberty to patrol other oceans sufficiently often to proclaim suzerainty, in particular the Pacific.

We have noticed that struggles are likely to occur on boundaries at our weakest points.

Might is Right in the law of nations.

As long as we are known to be strong enough to resist onslaughts, there will be no fights. If it is thought that we are not sufficiently strong in proportion to our huge responsibilities, rivals will assert themselves and claim what they wish to have.

Hence we see that in all probability two struggles are now brewing and will take place in our time.

1. For the supremacy of the North Sea. Which will take place on contiguous lands to that ocean.
2. For the supremacy of the Pacific. Which will take place anywhere on the contiguous seaboard of lands lying upon that ocean. And the Empires engaged in it will be those who most wish for the domination of the Pacific.

This last struggle will determine whether the great Pacific Ocean, which relates to one-third of the world, remains under the supremacy of the white races or whether the yellow race who desires to supplant the white on the Pacific will gain the power it longs to possess.

Are we ready to defend our boundaries?

Are we ready to uphold our race?

The peace of the whole world depends on our being able to answer both these questions in the affirmative, for it will be the most terrible struggle the world has yet seen, and will be practically a conflict between the English-speaking peoples of the West and the yellow Asiatics of the East.

"East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet."

CHAPTER VI

NATIONAL SERVICE LEAGUE

“ Let those who have failed take courage,
Though the enemy seem to have won ;
If he be in the wrong, though his ranks are strong,
The battle is not yet done ;
For sure as the morning follows
The darkest hour of the night,
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.”

—E. W. WILCOX.

CHAPTER VI

NATIONAL SERVICE LEAGUE

Lord Roberts is right.

“ It is the duty of every able-bodied man, high or low, rich or poor, to defend his country in case of national danger.

That to perform this duty efficiently he must be trained in time of peace.”

These two contentions are the main principles of the National Service League, and should be recognised by everybody as paving the way in the right direction. The only point which requires further reflection is the question of what constitutes national danger.

“ Liability for service would be in these islands only. No man in the citizen Army could be compelled to serve abroad even in time of war.”

We have granted that we are a portion of the British Empire, and that friction generally begins on boundaries, and that

these same boundaries are not in Great Britain; therefore in order to be of great and real assistance in averting national danger, any force called upon to assist must be a mobile, flexible quantity ready to project itself, in a protecting sense, upon any weak or vulnerable point at short notice.

The National Service League was formed at a time when few amongst us realised that we are either an Empire or nothing, when public opinion was content to dwell on the wealth in its coffers and leave security to chance. It has been most useful in cultivating a better sense of public duty and in educating people with a truer idea of national responsibility. But it is now commonly known that the defence of the heart begins with protection of extremities, and therefore the National Service League should develop its creeds to meet the requirements of the present time.

Warfare of the future (that which makes history and is momentous) will engage Empires, and as we belong to one of these complicated organisms it is futile to consider our responsibilities as purely national ones. They are, and must be, Imperial and national, the greater absorbing the less.

Disaster, if it comes, will most assuredly begin elsewhere than in Great Britain,

and the only time that we shall ever be called upon to defend our island shores will be the sad day when we have lost our power, influence, prestige and possessions throughout the world, and our glory, our inheritance and our existence at home.

It behoves us to reconsider the question of defence from a broader point of view, and to admit that neither the Territorials, who are to be trained *after* war has broken out, or the National Service League, which is pledged to remain in Great Britain, will meet 20th Century needs for security at home and abroad.

The ingenuity of man has been spent in devising deadly instruments for the destruction of his foes.

These seven-headed hydras are now so terrible in action, and so difficult in manipulation, that it must necessarily take considerable time to accustom those who handle them to do so in a workmanlike manner.

Some experience is needed in order that soldiers may keep cool and calm under the trying circumstances of modern warfare, and be able to maintain manœuvres under torrents of shell and salvoes of shrapnel.

Recent firearms, if used rightly, are simply fearsome in capability and exhaustively devastating. The crash, the roar,

the tumult occasioned by them are sufficient to cause any but trained troops to shudder, to cower, and to beat a hasty retreat. (As did the Turks at Lule Burgas.) It demands cultivated courage to encounter such streams of destruction, such an inferno of artillery, with steady resolution. The mechanism of machinery cannot be learnt in a day, its methods and its madness must become a known quantity, so that both the technique of modern war material and the handling of its appliances demand trained, disciplined, courageous soldiers if success is to be won.

Raw recruits are worse than useless ; they are extremely dangerous and demoralising, and apt to cause stampedes in the wrong direction, even amongst troops who are not new comers.

" Was none who would be foremost
To lead such dire attack ?
But those behind cried ' Forward,'
And those in front cried ' Back.' "

Panic is catching, and nothing is more difficult to arrest than a rout.

The disease known as " cold feet " is as infectious as the plague, and men who have never heard the crack of modern artillery may be excused for imagining that it heralds the crack of doom.

It is an absolute fallacy to think there is any short cut to military efficiency ; modern warlike appliances are mobile, flexible and palpitating with energy, and the men who control them must share their characteristics.

It is comparatively easy to feel lion-hearted behind deep entrenchments, set formations and barricades, but strategical tactics now outrun such arrangements, and only training can overcome the tendency to feel chicken-hearted in the moving, living lines of to-day.

Men must have experience to believe in themselves and trust their commanders, and these latter require opportunities of using their knowledge and judgment before they can make the best of any given position or situation.

The Turks lost their battles in Europe through faulty tactics, rotten and inefficient administration, and badly and inadequately trained soldiers.

For the same reasons the Empires of the past have perished.

Let us learn by the misfortunes of others, instead of waiting for and courting a similar fate.

Some thoughtful people propose to restore our military efficiency by greatly

enlarging our voluntary army, and this might answer the purpose if it could be done, but the figures for recruiting during recent years do not give much encouragement to this suggestion.

It is not necessary to quote all the statistics on the subject, but the following are taken from Colonel Seely's figures for recruiting during the present century, and show a steady decline in the number of those who are ready to adopt the art of war as a profession.

Recruits for the Army :—

Date.	Men.
1900	73,709
1902	62,250
1903	42,071
1906	35,506
1909	26,956

Volunteers :—

1901	55,921
1904	44,092
1907	18,141

Territorial Force (formed 1908) :—

1909	42,239
1910	39,089

All these voluntary efforts tell the same tale.

That we are becoming more and more engrossed in industrial work, further and further engaged in commercial pursuits, and less and less prone to become soldiers from mere choice. The great and increasing desire for town life, and the steady diminution in the yearning for the peace and solitude of rural districts, aid and abet in the same direction.

Therefore if the long-tried voluntary principle has ceased to provide the required number of soldiers needed for the security of the nation, it is idle to demand a larger army formed on the old basis. Choice is one thing, necessity is another and is commonly known as Hobson's choice, meaning there is none.

We have arrived at necessity, and we shall, if we have the love of our homes at heart and a due sense of our responsibilities to our King, our Country, and our Empire, be constrained to admit that a change from the purely voluntary system to an obligatory one will probably be the only solution worth consideration.

As our entire education and occupations are in direct opposition at present to the fostering of a martial spirit, and as our whole life runs on contrary lines, it is not astonishing that there should be a steady

decline for the nomadic life of a soldier. The wonder is that there are so many willing spirits forthcoming, and this shows that with any direct encouragement, martial endeavour would readily become more prominent and that we can yet provide ourselves with a very fine citizen army if we will.

How many taxes would be paid if the payment of rates and taxes were on a voluntary basis, and subject to mere choice.

Taxes are gathered to support the machinery of State and assist in the government of the country. We are obliged to pay them.

It is every whit as important for the welfare and continuance of our race and the right direction of the State that we should have an adequate force to defend our homes and maintain our existence as a nation, and yet the guardianship of our own lives and all those entrusted to our care is left to mere choice and vague chance.

We all contribute to the upkeep of our country financially. Surely we must all be ready to contribute to the upkeep of our country physically.

National existence is more important than filthy lucre which we pay in taxes.

Every other nation except China and America having adopted obligatory military training, it is obvious that any contest will be against trained troops.

Do the Territorials obtain sufficient experience to enable them to hold their own against possible enemies with an equal chance of success?

On Saturday, July 5th, 1913, His Majesty King George reviewed the London contingents of the Territorial Force in Hyde Park, and afterwards was pleased to write that he was glad to see these forces "represented."

His Majesty chooses his words extremely well. Out of 17,000 men who should have been there, only 10,000 put in an appearance, therefore the whole Force of 26,000 men (on paper) was duly represented and no more.

Moreover their deportment was not that of soldiers, nor did their appearance remind one of the necessities of war.

All they seemed to possess was brand new uniforms with plenty of cord on them.

Is it imagined that these fine garments will defeat an adversary? One cannot help wondering how long it would really take the Territorials to mobilise in a proper manner.

Probably the vital issue of any outbreak would be settled before ever they were ready to take an effective part in the argument.

The showman at a store informs his purchasers that "Yer pays yer money, and yer takes yer choice."

We too are paying our money (the taxes were never so high before) but are we taking our choice, are we getting anything like an equivalent for the outlay ?

Are we having what we need ?

You, my friend, "the man in the street," pay the piper : it is for you to call the tune, and if *you* will kindly join in that tune yourself and make it a national one, the harmony will be far finer than anything we have heard before.

Does the National Service League provide the remedy ?

It suggests :—

"One continuous training of four months for the infantry (with longer periods not exceeding two months for the other arms) shall be compulsory for all able-bodied youths between the ages of 18 and 21 without distinction of class or wealth. Such training shall be followed annually for the next three years by

- (a) A fortnight's training in camp in the Territorial Force.
- (b) A musketry course with such further drills as may be prescribed by that Force."

Will this amount of training turn out a competent soldier able to hold his own as an equal against any probable foe?

And will it provide for a force which is ready to be despatched to any vulnerable point at short notice?

If we, as a nation, have no adequate means of answering these two requirements in the right way, is there any available institution to show us in which direction to move in order to obtain what we want?

CHAPTER VII

SECURITY IN SIGHT

"Dieu et mon droit."

"God and Justice."

CHAPTER VII

SECURITY IN SIGHT

Yes, there is such an organisation.

The British Nation possesses in its midst a splendid Association, so nearly perfect in administration, so thoroughly efficient in equipment, and so truly admirable in construction, that it can in many districts *be mobilised within an hour* and in complete readiness to take the field, or be transported to the front of the seat of war, wherever that front may be, at *twenty-four hours' notice*.

It is mobile, flexible, modern and strong. These are four essential points for to-day.

Assuredly then we shall not be on the wrong track, if we elect to follow the lead of an Agency in such entire harmony with the spirit of the 20th Century.

Men of Great Britain, be proud ! Not of your own valour, for that has, in many

cases, yet to be proved, but of the valour of your womenkind, which has already brought about such a satisfactory state of affairs, through the capable and national association of the British Red Cross Society.

This concern reveals in the most striking and effective manner that it possesses a truly up-to-date formation. It is prepared to meet the necessities which arise from Nature's ruthless relentless, and remorseless law of strife, by having a construction which enables it to grapple successfully with the exigencies of to-day.

The decree that men must fight to uphold, to feed, to protect their race, and that women are to nurse, nourish and restore that said race, is the wisest of natural traditions.

The Red Cross Society does not train men into soldiers—some other effort must do this—but it organises women into bands of trained nurses, who can follow on the heels of struggles and conflicts and give of their best, namely their lives and their services, to try and cope with the disasters caused by shell and shrapnel in the inevitable battles of their brethren.

The women who work for the Red Cross, and kindred Societies, meet all requirements with a sturdy devotion to

their country hard to beat, with an absolute readiness for any fair share of labour which may fall to their lot, and with a power of endurance and performance which indicates self-sacrifice and disinterestedness in the highest degree.

Besides the characteristics of soldiers in its workers, the Red Cross Society has also something of a military complexion in its constitution, for it is on the alert for all emergencies.

All that women can do to alleviate suffering, to succour the weak and wounded, and to restore health and strength to those who have lost both in the service of their country, can equally well be emulated by the men of the nation, in accepting their allotted, albeit different, share of the same national labour for the welfare of their race.

Why should they not perform their obvious functions under arms, as well and as nobly as do their comrades in nursing uniforms?

There is only one reason.

The organisation which concentrates rightly directed efforts into approved channels exists for the women, but is wanting for the men.

That is the difference.

If there were a clause in the tenets of the Red Cross Society which debarred its workers from leaving these shores when danger cries from afar, or prohibited them from placing themselves at the seat of war when urgently needed there, much of their helpful work would be crippled, and their energies fall into disuse. Their utility would be so sadly circumscribed as to be almost annulled, and their great and valuable services would be restricted to much smaller compass.

Yet the National Service League which strives to solve the problem of providing soldiers for home defence, and has done excellent work in many ways, actually hampers the scope of its action by a clause with this mediaeval reservation. The home of the British race is the British Empire and our country is world-wide.

Again, if the Red Cross Society had only the ghosts of its ambulance ready to take the field, if it had to make good its equipment and its paraphernalia *after* war broke out, instead of having, as it has, all this in readiness, in evidence and in existence, before the commencement of hostilities, its valuable activities would be paralysed and its magnificent achievements frustrated. It has no such antediluvian

methods, but it is quite ready for action, more so than are the men. For we all fear that a calamitous state of affairs, something very nearly approaching chaos, prevails throughout the battalions of the Territorials.

Having, as we have, two forces in our midst which do not come up to the scratch, as regards the necessities of the present day, or the probable requirements of the future, should we not be well advised in turning this matter of supreme importance over in our minds, and devising a means by which we may best make improvements in our systems ?

It would surely be a laudable endeavour to try to turn the energies of our masculine population into channels that would be as serviceable to mankind as are the efforts of our female population through the excellent work of the British Red Cross and similar Societies.

Any army or force which we construct for National Defence must possess the four cardinal points seen to be essential for present times :—

1. Mobility.
2. Flexibility.
3. Modernity.
4. Strength.

It should therefore be an army consisting of forces which can move with agility, which can adapt itself to the changing wants of to-day or to-morrow, which is supplied with every modern invention or appliance worth having, and which always has its full complement of capable soldiers to man, control, and operate the machinery of war.

Only a fully equipped, strongly organised and well-trained expeditionary force will answer to these four cardinal virtues.

Great Britain therefore needs a national or citizen army built up of a certain number of expeditionary forces which are in constant and permanent readiness for action, as well as and above its present voluntary army for long service abroad and at home, its Marine Service and its splendid Navy.

In order to obtain this valuable asset, we shall find it expedient to make slight modifications in our national life, all of which will show that we are able to change to suit our environment, and that therefore we have a claim upon Nature for continued existence as a nation and as a race.

If we start at the beginning upon a solid base, and build up slowly and steadfastly, we can raise an edifice of national and

Imperial security which will withstand conflicts and resist shocks.

The Boys' Scout movement appeals to the youthful imagination and is an admirable stepping stone to universal training. Let it receive every encouragement from the public, from the War Office and from the Government, and let it become the foundation of a citizen army. When the Scouts outgrow their movement, they should be incorporated into a second grade body of "Junior Pioneers" or some Cadet Corps which could continue the good training already received, and supplement it by additional instruction. They could remain in this new body, which would have to be organised, until they were twenty. The same training chosen for this Cadet Corps could be undertaken by private and public schools for youths. At twenty all able-bodied men should be obliged to devote a certain period of time to becoming an effective unit in one or another of the existing expeditionary forces. They should be able to learn an efficient rôle therein, which is practised until it becomes perfect and as easy as a habit, when the particular work assigned to each unit can be kept in practice at intervals, and can always be resumed when required in after years.

How long will it take to train a man to accomplish his work well and thoroughly as a unit of an expeditionary force, and in so doing to become a competent soldier? Opinions will vary considerably on this matter, but let common-sense prevail.

We are not unfortunately as sturdy a race of mountaineers as are the Swiss, so that the length of time they demand for their citizen army would scarcely suffice for our town-bred industrial people.

On the other hand we are still a race which enjoys outdoor life and pursuits, and which takes much of its pleasure in physical feats, bodily exercises, and popular games. We can therefore adapt ourselves fairly readily to the conditions that are usual in a soldier's normal experience, so that the prolonged periods of training taken by the Continental armies of Europe need not be considered advisable for us.

It is suggested, in all due humility, that a happy mean would meet the case and give us the right clue to the question.

The most complicated of all organisms, to wit, a human body, is formed in nine months, and it appears probable that a well-trained soldier could be made out of a man in the same length of time.

Sweden, a country which is our near neighbour, and has something of similar conditions to our own, has appointed this period of time, 281 days, or nine months, for the military training she asks of her citizens and for their instruction under arms.

There is already in Britain a considerable number of people who are of opinion that we might copy the Swedish system as, on the whole, the most suitable model to which we can approximate our methods. As in following the example set by Sweden we also fall into line with a natural law, we cannot do better than give it a trial. Modifications can always be introduced when we have further experience to guide us.

There is another and more subtle reason for choosing the number nine as the figure around which to concentrate our martial efforts. This reason will only appeal to those few, those very few, in the universe who are in touch with the powerful but invisible forces which surround us unceasingly, and which are in absolute harmony with Divine wisdom. These make it expedient to work in co-operation with natural and existing powers instead of putting ourselves in opposition to them.

If we can come to a rational common-sense agreement as to the time to be spent in military training, the next step will be to formulate a standard of absolute efficiency for Britain's expeditionary forces, and to accept this official document as the basis for future efforts.

Adequate arrangements for all contingencies should be enumerated, leaving nothing to chance, and the execution of this standard should take solid concrete forms, visible to the eye, tangible to the touch, and available in the daily life of the third grade of military students or the citizens of our future national army.

Probably the most satisfactory way of forming these expeditionary forces, with their complete paraphernalia, would be to localise them through the country so that each force is supported and drawn from the inhabitants of certain districts within reach. For instance a county, or a group of counties which exist under similar conditions, could form a nucleus for every force ; this would give a local interest and local support to a national undertaking and invite wholesome rivalry.

Ranges would have to be provided, and drill grounds laid out, and suitable localities arranged for military centres, either

in the open or waste lands, or under cover, according to what is considered advisable.

We should then have a national army in three grades :—

1st grade	Boy Scouts.
2nd „	Junior Pioneers.
3rd „	National Pioneers.

The last grade to consist of all able-bodied British males who were at the age of twenty. They would serve in one or other of the standardised expeditionary forces for 281 days, their places being gradually taken by succeeding men who were twenty years of age. These forces must be led and commanded by officers from our regular army, just as our Indian, Egyptian and Sudanese regiments are officered.

This would give Great Britain a citizen army for national defence, Imperial purposes and racial continuance.

We should have what we need.

Great Britain has a national revenue of nearly two hundred millions (it should be less), whilst John Bull himself spends one hundred and sixty million pounds on his alcoholic drinks alone (it should be less), so that he looks after Number One in a most generous manner, but the enfeebled British Lion has been kept on a starvation diet for some time.

National Revenue - £190,000,000.
National Drink Bill - 160,000,000.
British Army - - - 27,000,000.
British Navy - - - 45,000,000.

It won't do, John Bull ! !

You must go over your sums and work them out better than that !

There *is* money, but your accounts are out of order !

The Government has a colossal Revenue at its disposal, and so no new taxation need be inflicted, but instead, a wise overhauling of our financial methods might be undertaken with signal advantage to the State, so that funds may be spent where they bring good results, instead of being squandered as at present upon unprofitable undertakings. When a scheme of this sort (or some other superior one which may be devised by those who feel they can do it) is in operation for national defence, at home and abroad, then national security will be in sight, and the welfare of the Empire assured. That Empire of which we should all justly be proud, and which demands our highest ideals and our most worthy efforts.

Beneficent British rule has for a hundred years been synonymous with peace and plenty for itself, and many others,

and has brought light into places overcast with shadows, where darkness had previously prevailed.

As long as British influence was recognised as paramount, and our ideals of justice and order accepted as the standards of life and action, the law of peace and tranquillity possessed greater probabilities of advantage than either combats, which would have been discouraged, or quarrels, which would have been futile. Therefore peace conquered because we were strong enough to enforce it.

But since there has been some sort of an impression that our influence is not as dominant as it was, and since we are not quite so ready to uphold the spirit of our influence and emphasize, through matter, our ethereal ideals, legions have sprung up ready to show their eagerness to quarrel if any advantage may accrue to themselves therefrom. And thousands are anxious to dispute for the chance of seizing any advantages which may be discarded.

The crumbs from the table of the great are picked up by famished mice.

We have seen in Chapter I. that the average time for an important war has decreased in terrible ratio during the 20th

Century, and at present stands at one war every three years !

This is partly due to the fact that the British have no large citizen army to throw its weight into the balance for peace and order, and to enforce their superior arguments by equivalent forces.

There are many who would be prepared to respect and revere our authority, if it could be indisputably demonstrated in a convincing manner.

We may all deplore the mad rush of the 20th Century towards increase of armaments, and the crushing domination of a too prominent belligerent atmosphere which has oppressed us with ever increasing weight during the last decade. But the part that Great Britain has unconsciously and unwisely enacted is largely responsible for this sad state of affairs, and has indirectly aided very largely to this woeful condition of restlessness.

Whilst bemoaning the results of our inactivity, let us at all events be honest enough to deprecate our mistaken policy of self-abasement, which has rendered such a state of things possible in Europe, and indeed in the East also.

Change and development are laws of Nature, and must ever continue, but latterly

it is not Nature's law which is impressing itself upon humanity, but mob-law, due to the fact that Great Britain is too quiescent. This unhappy condition of tumult could easily be suppressed if we had proper and weighty means of backing up our arguments and showing our influence.

It is thought throughout the world that Great Britain is given over to internal factions, and is too much engaged at home with party politics, to devote her strength and all her attention to larger and more important issues. Instead of using all our energies towards the preservation of our prestige, and instead of maintaining unimpaired our universal influence for the good of mankind abroad, we have been misguided enough to fritter our power away in mischievous dissensions at home.

" As we wax hot in faction,
In battle we wax cold.
Wherefore men fight not as they fought
In the brave days of old."

It is also known that we as a nation have embarked on the expenditure of huge sums for internal government, which is found to be mistaken and disastrous, and that we spend money freely in the fostering of large forces of officials for supervising these same objects.

This money, which would be admirably spent on creating a citizen Army and in enlarging our Navy, now goes to nourish officials who will never become stalwart soldiers ; on the contrary, they almost cease to be useful citizens because they live upon others instead of being productive themselves ; therefore they do not add to the national wealth at all, but sap it at its foundation, being parasites.

In the last ten years the British Nation has formed a large army of these officials, but only at the expense of her true strength. My friend, we have been very busy aiding in the formation of huge battalions of parasites ; if we had spent the same amount of money on a citizen Army or on our superb Navy, in addition to that which has already been spent, the world would have enjoyed far greater peace than it has experienced during the last ten years.

When the British Lion stalked abroad
as a giant with his motto

“ Dieu et mon droit ”

plainly floating over his head for all the world to see, lesser creatures wisely kept out of his way and busied themselves with their own concerns.

The British Lion has been having a dose for the last decade, all for want of a national army, and therefore the small fry of the universe have put up their heads and come forward to see what may be gained whilst the lion sleeps.

Might is Right.

Through the strength of those who know how to wield power wisely and well, the peace of the world may be kept, and if Britain is mightily strong she can use her welcome influence in useful spheres of thought and action.

Victorious arms lead to the paths of peace, but woe betide those who linger there too long.

The lion has overslept himself, and the consequence is that he will awake to find pandemonium ; in order to put this right the British Lion must arouse himself, and above all he must remember his motto. The British Lion raised one of his paws last year, 1912, over the Agadir incident, with very beneficial results.

He is responsible for the welfare of all mankind under his flag, and in being strong and wise enough to perform his own duties properly, and undertake his own responsibilities in a royal and comprehensive manner, he is indirectly in the proud

position of being able to exert enormous and perhaps unconscious influence over the whole world.

He can contribute a hundredfold to the peace and prosperity therein, or if he sleeps he can encourage anarchy.

Providence has placed the British Lion in a position of untold trust, and he must accept his duties.

They are too important to be neglected.

"All Empire is no more than power in trust."

The only way the British Lion can rise equal to his vast responsibilities is by remembering that he is beholden to God to fulfil his duties, and that Providence will remain on his side as long as he exerts himself to the utmost to live up to his lights and fulfil his appointed lot.

"Dieu et mon droit."

Eh ! laddie, but dinna forget !!!

CHAPTER VIII

RACIAL VIGOUR

“Before setting out to conquer the world, conquer yourself.”

“Veni, vidi, vici.”

CHAPTER VIII

RACIAL VIGOUR

Nations possess, in uninterrupted development, four stages of expansion: these are :—

1. Territorial.
2. Political.
3. Economical.
4. Racial.

The British nation has passed through the three previous stages and has now arrived at the fourth stage which indicates maturity. This final degree should lead (if growth be not arrested at any crucial point) to increased power, prestige, influence and supremacy. To encompass these high aims the individuals composing the population should be highly endowed with excellence, and should be well furnished with those qualities which ensure domination.

They must in fact show marked superiority over other races, who have not

yet arrived at their state of maturity. Just as a nation has four degrees of expansion, all human nature is four-fold, and all its four dimensions must be put in a position to expand and develop if the human being is to arrive on the highest possible plane of existence.

This fourfold nature is as follows :—

1. Physical.
2. Mental.
3. Moral.
4. Spiritual.

Any set of conditions, or any group of circumstances, which conduce to the growth of an individual (man or woman) along normal lines, in these directions, will improve the well-being and the welfare of the person, and will, in the sum total of individuals, affect the prosperity of the nation, and further the aims of the species. National growth will be vastly augmented by the physical growth and moral expansion of individuals, and obligatory universal training would improve the physique of the populace in great measure. When the body is in good health, the moral qualities of the human character have a better chance of blossoming and coming into their own. Racial vigour and racial valour are immensely enhanced by systematical training

based on the physical needs of people. Deep chests and sound lungs betoken health and strength to the whole constitution, and can be much enlarged by exercises and drill.

The following measurements are taken from the French army and relate to some thousands of men :—

FRENCH RECRUITS.

	Height Inches	Weight lbs.	Chest Girth Inches
On entry, December ...	64·9	133·66	33·9
After 6 months, July ...	65·9	136·89	34·4
Expansion ...	+1	+3·23	+0·95

This decided growth in important organs bestows additional health and strength, as well as an increase in size.

The results of military training in the Japanese Army give the same satisfactory improvements :—

JAPANESE RECRUITS.

	Height Inches	Weight lbs.	Chest Girth Inches	Chest Expansion Inches
1901 ...	64·12	126·2	32·12	2·62
1902 ...	64·23	131·3	33·17	2·86
1903 ...	64·34	132·5	34·0	2·86
1904 ...	64·34	132·5	34·0	2·86
Growth ...	+0·22	+6·3	+1·88	+0·24

All this change occurs in two years.

This is a remarkable growth and also shows us convincingly that the beneficial changes occur *during the first year*, after which organs, having gained all that is possible, remain practically stationary.

Therefore we should be able to reap the benefits which can be conferred within the time suggested, nine months or 218 days, three quarters of a year. Very little, or nothing, would be gained by prolonging the period of military service beyond this time. It is the first six months that show the most substantial gains as regards the physical status, and the last three months set the seal upon their progress, and establish them as permanent possessions.

But no figures or statistics can possibly show the enormous advantages in mental development and in moral character. These absolutely surpass all bodily improvement. Discipline, obedience, resource, are all encouraged, and the formation of clean, tidy, methodical habits are an asset of stupendous value for the remainder of life. The whole system of universal training renders the men who go through it more thorough, more competent, more capable, and more virile, and these qualities add

colossally to racial vigour and national valour.

We have seen that the life of a nation is fourfold, as is also the life of a human being, and it is by encouraging the best brand that is extant in body, brain, heart and soul, that we shall be able to arrive at a higher level of consciousness throughout all lives and all classes. This will enable us to keep pace with the thought of the future.

Here it may be mentioned that any scheme which offers these great advantages to the upper classes (who already have better opportunities of obtaining them), and omits to provide them for those other classes which stand in such great need of them, is radically unsound and fundamentally mistaken in its objects. These are (1) to give us a citizen army for security and (2) to improve our race so that it may hold its own amongst others, and (3) in doing this to bring about a sympathetic understanding between all classes for the common weal, which can only be accomplished by mutual knowledge of each other. The weak can be made stronger, the despondent can gain hope, the man of straw can develop a backbone, and through adequate training all can arrive at dignity

and self-respect, which will enable the nation to serve itself, and its country, to the full measure of its capability.

We have vast responsibilities in front of us, and we should devote our energies to fitting ourselves for the fulfilment of these functions in the best manner. Only by being masters of ourselves can we win mastery over others, wielding it wisely and well for the benefit of mankind.

The arduous work of good government is sorely needed in the world, more than anything else in fact, because the races who have the knack of ruling are few and far between, and the races who need rule are many and numerous.

The British will not be working out their destiny unless they use their magnificent abilities in this direction, and fit themselves physically to maintain their race in all its energies, its activities, and its elevated standards.

The soil, the climate, and the condition of our British Islands have peculiar properties and proclivities for the propagation and production of living species, be they what they may, either animals (horses, cattle, dogs) or mankind, and these travel all over the world to make standards of excellence for other nations to imitate, in

as far as possible, in raising stock. Therefore it is imperative to keep the human stock here at home free from blemish, strong and capable of reproduction.

A few sane movements initiated by sound common sense would carry untold weight in promoting vast improvements in the hygiene and the spiritual regeneration of our people.

These are :—

1. National Service with universal training.

2. Segregation and seclusion under kind care and in suitable environment of the mentally deficient and feeble-minded. Crime springs from this class of unfortunates, who are irresponsible for their actions.

3. Enforced notification of all cases of venereal diseases, which should be made without distinction of sex, class or nationality. These diseases are the most deadly and dangerous known to mankind, and are allowed to go scot free in our circles like ravening wolves without the slightest prohibition. They must be subjected to proper treatment as are fevers, small pox, etc., all of which are really less poisonous. These precautions we owe to

ourselves, our descendants and our national health.

4. Rigid legislation for the exclusion of all undesirable aliens belonging to inferior races. These immigrants can never be developed into British patriots, and contaminate our race. England can no longer afford to be the dumping ground for the lowest dregs of humanity, or to receive in her midst the scum of the earth.

Future conflicts will be racial ones, and the ingredients which each country accepts for amalgamation with her own breed will play an important part in the struggles for final supremacy.

Let a country only welcome those with whom the daughters and sons of her race can unite, with the probability of securing happiness and satisfactory results, and who will bestow good chances of encouraging innate potentialities for the reproduction of useful citizens.

5. Encouragement for the provision of proper houses for families, because homes are the real foundations of an Empire. In a new country a man is allowed to build himself the kind of house or cottage which he can afford to erect, but in an old country the byelaws and regulations relating to the structure of cottages are so obsolete and

obstructive that it is at present impossible to build cottages as a moderately lucrative investment. Recent land legislation has also been so punitive and pernicious that the building trade has been severely handicapped and brought to a standstill, at a time when the dearth of cottages in our rural districts is calamitous. The lack of cottages is often the true cause of the departure of thousands from our shores, and of the shortage of labour on the land, and greatly accentuates the exodus of our young married couples, which is a serious loss to our national wealth.

These matters require corrective treatment, and the provision of land banks to make loans to those who could build their own houses or buy their own land for cultivation. We passed a Land Purchase Act for Ireland but not for ourselves. We gave the Egyptian fellahs ample compensation for their houses on the banks of the Nile when the Assouan dam destroyed their old ones. In fact we have behaved with justice and good sense for everybody but ourselves. Charity begins at home.

A truer recognition of the forces at work which tend to the advancement of our human species ; a better understanding of the real nobility of character which leads

to so much of the individual and personal efforts of many of the inhabitants of these islands ; and far greater faith in ourselves and the ultimate mission of the British Empire—these will all enable us to reach a higher level of racial vigour.

CHAPTER IX

THE IMPERIAL OUTLOOK

“The meteor flag of England
Shall yet, terrific, burn
Till danger’s troubled night depart
And the Star of Peace return.”

—CAMPBELL.

CHAPTER IX.

THE IMPERIAL OUTLOOK

On any one of those beautiful September mornings when summer is merging into autumn, when the rich and prolific harvests of generous Mother Earth have been garnered safely for future use, and the first degree or two of frost gives an electrical touch to the atmosphere, observers of natural history may notice a phenomenon which frequently takes place.

There is a great commotion overhead. Quantities of small creatures on the wing are circulating around up in the air, darting hither and thither in long graceful sweeps, swinging high, then low, above the haunts of men, rocketing up and darting down, searching apparently for something they do not see, knowing not what they really need, yet conveying the impression of thorough discontent with their present circumstances ; for they all feel instinc-

tively that some great change is due and must at all costs be undertaken.

The annual migration of the swallows is at hand.

Then the commotion ceases ; the fitful and aimless movements hither and thither give place to concerted action, conviction is suddenly gained, and as an immediate result true progress is made.

The swallows have settled upon the right direction for flight, and the whole mass of birds flies decidedly towards the rosy future which beckons them to sunshine, as if their innumerable numbers consisted but of one unit. They are all of the same mind.

The swallows of England have discovered the right direction for motion and head straight for their destination.

To-day the people of Great Britain appear to be in much the same state of indecision, in much the same condition of restlessness, in much the same aimless mood, and in much the same noisy commotion, as the migratory swallows in September. But unlike the swallows they have not yet decided upon their correct course in an unanimous manner.

Would that they too might follow the example of their small winged friends and let themselves be conducted by their best

instinctive intuitions towards the bright horizon, where the rosy dawn of the future is beckoning with glorious sunshine, for then, they too would head straight in the right direction, and then they too would ultimately arrive at their true destination, thereby reaping untold advantage for themselves and every component part of the whole.

We should find a new heaven and a new earth.

This can only be encompassed by becoming a united consolidated organism, and by concerted effort to bring order and method to regulate anomalous disarrangements.

We need to supplant the National aspect of the past with the Imperial outlook of the present.

The British are born to the responsible position of being the peacemakers of the earth, and they should become sufficiently strong to be able to use their weight and their might for the purpose of keeping the Star of Peace in the ascendant.

It is our bounden duty and our appointed task to act as sentinels to the outposts of civilisation as well as to her citadels.

It is our pride and our pleasure no less than our honour and privilege to be amongst those who are in the vanguard of the march of humanity towards its goal of constant progress.

Let us then step forward in this direction with courage and conviction.

The Anglo-Saxon race, now known as the British race, originally emerged from a fusion of the Romans, who were Empire-builders ; of the Normans, who were conquerors and brought us intelligence ; of the Danes and Norsemen, who were Vikings and rulers of the seas, amalgamated with a few other useful ingredients.

Our qualifications for undertaking beneficent rule and holding the reins of wise government are therefore very great, and should be used in their immensity to create new forms and promote modern organisations instead of destroying and desecrating our foundations.

On travels throughout the world, either in remote places where few penetrate, or in the busy marts of men, which are thronged, one is more and more impressed by the fact that whenever particularly laborious, difficult or thankless pieces of work have to be done, whenever an institution requiring considerable powers of administration is

a success, or whenever large bodies of men have to be managed and justice maintained ; in all these hard, arduous and severe duties which other races shirk and shun there may be found one of our countrymen struggling to fight against stiff odds and to carry on dreary work, quietly and well. They direct labours which perhaps give employment to hundreds or thousands of others, putting through plans which develop Nature and take toll of the earth, or revolutionise in an economic way a factory, an estate, an island, or a country. All this is accomplished by our people, who are capable of bearing burdens of responsibility which lesser beings might despair of shouldering, and who do all these manifold undertakings, and many others one hears not of, without grumbling, without blustering and without advertisement, just for the love of duty and in order to further the work of the world.

Even in such factories and work-places in America and Canada, where one may sometimes see notices of " No Englishman need apply," even here there is—just as likely as not—a descendant of our blood or one of our race in supreme command. One laughingly points to the notice and he returns, " Oh well, we don't want loafers, but good men can always obtain work."

Yes, we are undoubtedly doing much useful service in the world, but let us put our own house in order as well as helping everybody else to improve their affairs.

Also it should be remembered that "in my Father's house are many mansions," and we can only bring chaos into the beauty of perfection by attempting to alter our national house into an Imperial mansion, enlarging our foundations until they possess a wider basis, and will support an imposing and handsome structure.

All British people love their homes, and which amongst us has not during the present century made some improvement under his roof? The addition of a shed or a garage or a bath-room, the improvement of a pantry, a cupboard or a kitchen-range, the widening of windows, doors or rooms, the laying out of a garden, a wood or a backyard, etc., etc., have all taken place throughout the kingdom from one end to the other. Royal Palaces have been overhauled and modernised as well as small houses and cottages. But our house of State has been neglected and left untouched for generations, although there is crying need for structural alterations.

We are in a time of transition, and movements in the right direction denote

growth and expansion, whereas lack of change must mean stagnation and decay.

From the aims and the accomplishments of the great 19th century, when National aspirations held away, to the even greater 20th century, when Imperial ideals will conquer.

Every century has hitherto possessed a complexion and individuality of its own, with different characteristics from its predecessors, and the present century is no exception to the rule.

It is, and is bound to be by all that has gone before it, the century when Empires will come into their own immense existence, or else succumb from adverse pressure—within and without.

It must be the time when Imperial conceptions will gain re-birth and bring forth progeny which will outgrow and outshine all antecedents. They will be the giants of the future, beside which the spectres of the past will appear as distorted pygmies.

It will not be given to many races to find themselves in the final round for World Supremacy, or to rear such fine specimens of creative energy, and to embody so many wonderful ideals of noble imagination that others in a less fortunate

position bow to their superiority and recognise forthwith their suzerainty.

But the British race with their heroic traditions can enter these lists if they will, and can carry off the laurels of peace and victory by devoting their time and their talents to the hybridisation of possibilities.

Instead of harping upon the strings of nationality, which are already superseded and out of tune, we should look forward to greater concord and bring ourselves into harmony with Imperial orchestration.

The first twenty years of any new century bring fresh views, modern points and novel necessities, into the music of life, and it is this complexity of sound and choice of entourage which make us at the present time so restless, so futile and unstable.

For these same circumstances give many opportunities of striking the wrong chord, playing a false note, and mistaking the true instruments to assist us. Energies will be well employed in propounding schemes, prompted by disinterested patriotism, which attempt to cement existing ties whilst they forge stouter and closer connections.

It is the first step which is difficult, but if we really began to tread the road leading to Imperialism we should find it

growing ever finer and broader beneath our feet.

True advance can only be made along the lines of loyal and unselfish love of our Empire, and that which is now an impressive name can assuredly be turned into a magnificent fact to conduce to universal welfare.

Britain exercises much more influence than is generally conceded to her. For instance, the independence of the American nations is guaranteed by England's prestige and her fleet. Without these two important factors the Monroe doctrine would have been disputed by force long ago, and the two Americas would have been powerless to uphold it. Great Britain acts as sentinel to both North and South America, and exercises like power all the world over. This fact requires emphatic repetition, and we shall not be in a position to give it due importance until our Navy has regained its previous supremacy. Every portion of the Empire should contribute to the Imperial Navy, for until the British Lion can place his various fleets where they would have the greatest influence for good, he is not in the enjoyment of good health. One Fleet should be in the Atlantic and home waters, one Fleet in the Mediterranean, and one Fleet in the Pacific and

Caribbean Seas. When this can be done with impunity, we shall be able to offer our warmest congratulations to the British Lion on living up to his motto and on recovering his constitution.

The finest Imperial thought acknowledges that we should all unite in maintaining "One King, one Navy, one Flag, one Empire," but when these essentials have been achieved, there will appear summits beyond which can also be surmounted with patience and perseverance, such as a Federated Empire, comprising all her Dominions with her Sovereign as British Emperor, an Imperial Legislative Council based upon merit, and a General Staff to supervise all military matters and bring them into sympathetic and harmonious relationship throughout our vast domains.

We should remember that our Dominions, peopled with our own kith and kin, have already shown us the way to move by their adoption of universal training. We can no longer afford to lag behind our own children, but should hasten to follow their examples by providing ourselves with a citizen army. Then all military efforts undertaken in various parts could be gradually approximated to the most useful ideals, and all endeavours under arms could

run in similar channels towards the possession of competent expeditionary forces.

Enormous increase of strength and stability would thereby be attained, as all vulnerable points could receive adequate reinforcements at short notice.

The same weapons of defence might obtain throughout the Empire, the same rifles, the same bayonets, the same guns, and the same batteries, so that when we were all engaged in warfare for a common cause against a common foe, an interchange of firearms would present no obstacle in cases of accident or emergency. Similarities in legal, civil, naval and military matters would all help to aid unification of interests.

Before we put our house in order, or give decisive answers to any of our problems, let us first inquire what is best for our Empire, and let us make alterations and entertain suggestions with this view in mind. That which is suitable for the British Empire will in the long run be found to be far best for the heart of the organism, and that heart is Great Britain.

It may require a slight effort to build imperially instead of building nationally, but that is the endeavour the 20th century imposes upon us. It is by changing our

mode of thought, and enlarging its scope to suit our present environment, that we shall be able to act in accordance with the Spirit of Empire and meet the demands of the century in which we find ourselves, and thereby enter upon the path to peace.

Believe me, dear Compatriot,

Yours in hope and trust,

VEILED POLITICIAN.

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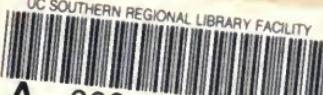
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